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C. E. Thacker—Editor and Publisher
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1908.

PROCEEDINGS TO RECOVER UPON FORFEITED BONDS.

Commonwealth Attorney Berkeley's proposed proceedings to recover on bonds which have been forfeited in the local courts is a step in the right direction. Bonds large and small have been declared forfeited here time and time again, but if the commonwealth has ever recovered upon one of them it was so long ago that everybody has forgotten about it.

It is high time that steps should be taken to make bail bonds worth something. All things considered, the local authorities have lost comparatively few bailed offenders, but this is no argument in favor of a loose system of bailing. Every man who presents himself at the court house and offers to become surety for the appearance of another, should be made to understand that if the accused fails to appear the full amount of the bond will be collected. As it is now, the bondsman too frequently listens to the "to be levied upon your goods and chattels for the use of this commonwealth," etc., thinking, more or less correctly, that it is all a mere formality and that there is no real likelihood of having his goods and chattels levied upon. And, only too often, in cases where prisoners are bailed by magistrates, the bondsman has no goods or chattels to be levied upon.

While he is at work on the bond question, it might be well for Captain Berkeley to give some attention to the promiscuous bailing of prisoners by justices of the peace. The Daily Press makes no charge against present magistrates; they may or may not have been guilty of negligence in this matter, but it is a well known fact that there have been justices who would accept almost anyone on a bond who could rake up the necessary fee of sixty cents. Prisoners charged with rather serious crimes have been released from custody upon the security of persons who would not be accepted by any bank in the city as the endorser of a note for thirty cents.

Our bail bond system should be brought down to a business basis. When a man offers himself as a bondsman he should have all of the qualifications required by law, and he should understand that he is obligating himself just as surely as if he were endorsing a note about to be discounted at a bank. If a prisoner is charged with a trivial offense and the authorities are satisfied that he will appear for trial, then he should be released upon his own recognizance. When a "recognizance" is not sufficient, then there should be a real bail bond.

PUNISHMENT OF CADETS UNNECESSARILY SEVERE.
Found guilty of exercising unwarranted authority over first classmen, six young men, third classmen, have been suspended for one year, and two others, have been expelled from the United States Military Academy. Some weeks ago all eight of these cadets were dismissed from the academy for alleged hazing. The action of

the academy authorities was submitted to the President, through the secretary of war, for approval. According to Wright, Loebe, et al. the President first approved the findings; then decided to reinstate the boys, and finally concluded to take no action whatever until he could hold a conference with Secretary Wright and Colonel Scott, the commandant of the academy.

This conference has now been held, and the final decision is that the six third classmen shall be suspended for one year, without pay or allowances, and the two seniors dismissed. In the conference Secretary Wright held that the boys had not been guilty of hazing, according to a strict interpretation of that term; that they had merely exercised unwarranted authority over plebes. Both the secretary and the President are said to have favored punishment of all of the offenders by suspension, but they were finally induced to approve the expulsion of the seniors by Col. Scott, who insisted upon this, contending that the discipline of the Academy demanded it.

A year's suspension is severe punishment for a cadet and it would seem to have been an adequate penalty for the offense committed by these young men. Perhaps an additional penalty of some kind might have been imposed upon the seniors, but expulsion was unnecessarily drastic.

Since this case has been under discussion, some one has discovered that Col. Scott, the commandant, was himself convicted of hazing and suspended from the academy for one year during his cadet days. And when the colonel was convicted, hazing meant something. It is more than probable that the offense for which he was suspended was many times more serious than that for which he demanded the dismissal of the two seniors.

As far as the public has been able to discover, the eight cadets recently dealt with, were guilty of no unmanly or brutal conduct. They did no "hazing," as the term is ordinarily applied; their misconduct consisting almost wholly in the assumption of authority over the under classmen.

At the "Maude Allen" dinner in London recently the only men present were the musicians, who were discreetly hidden behind a partition of palms. The orchestra director probably had his hands full keeping his men on the job.

Advices from Paris say the sultan of Morocco is "in full retreat and hotly pursued." Reads like a Russo-Japanese war special.

The destruction of Zeppelin's airship probably was the greatest stroke of good fortune in the old count's life.

THE POLITICAL AUCTION

Taft and Sherman are in the same boat. One flies the missionary flag of Reform. The other hoists the raw head and bloody bones of the political buccaneer. Taft is to lure the victims into reach; Sherman is to do the plundering.

In his speech of acceptance on Tuesday last, Mr. Sherman touched very lightly on most of the subjects propounded by his party's platform. But he was very frank on one point and very positive. He said that he favored revision of the Tariff in the interest of Protection.

And now we can understand where Mr. Sherman is to get the five millions which he considers essential to Republican success, and why the classes which have been most bitter in hatred of Roosevelt should now be eager for the success of Taft.

Privilege and political power are to repeat the condition which Hanna engineered in 1896 and 1900. The money of the Barons of Industry is to be poured into the campaign coffers of the Republican managers in such quantities as the exigencies of the case may demand. In 1896 the gold pro quo was the Dingley bill which almost doubled the power of the chosen beneficiaries to take toll from the pockets of the general public. Now the part to be played by the party of the first part is the same, while a Republican administration will repay the debt by revising the import duties upward—thus further concentrating wealth in the hands of Midas Rockefeller, Aladdin Carnegie and Monte Christo Morgan and thus tightening the throttle upon the throats of all the unhappy "rest of the country" which vainly fancies itself to be the free and self-governing American people.

Mr. Sherman gives away the whole game. It ought to be true that in vain does the fowler spread his net in the sight of any bird, but the world abounds in gulls and geese and noodies that seem to take pleasure in flying over their own destruction. So often have the same audacious tactics succeeded in snaring a majority of the American suffragans that we can hardly blame the Republicans for the confidence with which they prepare to repeat the process. But if the people of the United States are gifted with half the capacity for self-government which would be needed to justify their nominal possession of that right, they would rise as one man to strike down the traffickers who divide their possessions among themselves as robbers do their spoil. Shall the people rule? They are regularly sold for a price at each recurring Presidential election. And when the election is over it is themselves who are made to pay the price.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

WITH THE PARAGRAPHERS.

A lobster said to be 200 years old has been caught off Montauk Point. There's no lobster like an old lobster. Buffalo Times.

One court keeps on reversing another. That proves that law is an infallible science and that judges cannot err.—Youngstown Vindicator.

Considering the financial end of the Thaw trial, we hope the poor millionaires will hereafter think twice before they shoot.—Greenville News.

"Marie Correll" says her press agent, "is about to write a novel against the drink habit." Thereby reclaiming some of the poor souls she has driven to it.—Cleveland Leader.

Bill and John and Tom and Jim are hams appearing on the presidential tickets this year. Wouldn't a name like Reginald sound queer in a bunch like that.—Columbus Enquirer-Sun.

A day spent on Jupiter would seem almost as long to the average American as a day spent in Houston, Tex. Possibly it would not be as dull and monotonous.—Montgomery Advertiser.

A United States commission is going to Greenland to show the natives how to fish. They are certainly able to give the Greenlanders points on the art of telling about the catch.—Danville Register.

"I care nothing for the yelling of the politicians," blustered one Theodore Roosevelt. If there is a more vociferous political yell in the Union than he has failed to see his name in print.—Montgomery Advertiser.

Gov. Haskell, of Oklahoma, Democratic national treasurer, is writing Bryan campaign songs. Now it is up to George R. Sheldon to try his hand. Fortunately at a season like this the public is not critical.—New York World.

A Galveston man swallowed a silver half dollar. If he did not do it deliberately to keep from giving it to the campaign fund, we are ready to have him pumped out or operated on if he is willing to contribute.—Houston Post.

The Democratic campaign languished already for lack of funds and there is a Macedonian cry going up for help. It is a easy matter to finance a party that pledges itself to a war on business if given power.—Buffalo News.

A boy of 16 and a girl of 14 who eloped from Speonk, L. I., were caught in Baltimore and returned to their parents. It is true the young Speonk couple showed spunk, but they ought to be spanked just the same.—Brooklyn Times.

While a Republican governor is sending troops out to put down disorder and a Republican mob is burning the homes of negroes what is he doing Taft to wave the old Moody Shirt Banner.—Florida Times-Union.

BRYAN ON HIS WAY TO KERN CEREMONIES

(Continued from First Page.)

"I have confidence that our party's position is going to appeal to the judgment and conscience of the public and in this campaign we are confident in that events have robbed the Republican party of some of its most potent arguments in the past. For instance, if you will remember, in 1896, there was a great deal said about the panic and the Democratic party was charged with having brought a panic, and the Republican speakers accused us of having a monopoly on panics. I need not tell you that within the last year the Republican party has become an active competitor with the Democratic party on the subject of panics and they are no longer able to say that they can guarantee immunity from panics. Yet with the record of the last forty years which shows that of the three panics which came, two of them came when the Republican party was in complete power and after Republican victories and the third immediately after a Republican administration and yet they have the presumption to talk panics."

Spoke at Frankfort. At Frankfort, Mr. Bryan told the people that he was glad he had Mr. Kern for a running mate and he expected the voters of Indiana to show their appreciation of the action of the Denver convention by giving her electoral vote to Kern. "and Mr. Kern for a running mate and that the crowd gave a whoop when the Democratic candidate, as the train pulled out, said that he hoped to be in Washington on the fourth of March, when Mr. Kern is inaugurated vice President. On the train Mr. Bryan, Chairman Mack and his associates held several conferences. Among the subjects considered was the chairmanship of the committee that will manage the campaign in the East, but both Mr. Bryan and Chairman Mack positively announced that nobody would be determined upon and will not be until reply had been received from letters which had been sent to several persons asking their views regarding the appointment.

Cabbage in Flats.
Lettuce is said to cause measles and scarlet rash. It is known beyond cavil that boiled cabbages have caused rows in flats.

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AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES DEAD

(Continued from First Page.)

personal and delat relations than any other diplomat accredited to Washington.

Roosevelt Sheds Condolence.
OYSTER BA N. Y., Aug. 24.—When President Roosevelt learned of the death of ambassador Sternberg in Germany, he sent the following message:

"Oyster Ba N. Y., Aug. 24.—'Count Hermann von Hatzfeldt-Weldburg, Chancelier d'honneur, German Ambassador, Beverly, Mass.

"Am shocked and grieved at the news of the death of the ambassador. He was not only my intimate personal friend and one of the most fearless, sincere and loyal men I ever met, but also a diplomat of signal ability, who served Germany with fervent patriotism and yet who showed such intelligent good will for America that it would be difficult to ever estimate the value of what he did in strengthening and bringing closer the ties of friendship and good will between the two countries.

"I mourn his loss for my own sake and I deeply regret it for the sake of the people of the United States.

(Signed.)

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

EDITOR SAYS NEGRO VOTE WILL GO FOR BRYAN

John Mitchell, Editor of The Planet, Says Negroes in Doubtful States Have Decided.

RICHMOND, VA., Aug. 24.—John Mitchell, editor of the Planet, the most influential negro publication in the state, says that the Democratic presidential ticket will receive a large vote from the negroes in the doubtful states. Mitchell makes his statement upon advice which he says he has received through private and authentic sources.

He said: "The negro vote will not enter into the question in the South for many reasons, the most important of which is the practical elimination of the negro vote. But it is a fact that many of the negroes in the Middle Western states, such as Ohio, Iowa and Illinois, are sore on the Republicans and will vote for Bryan. The Republicans have made so many promises and have kept so few with the negro that the intelligent members of the race are disappointed. In fact, they are downright mad, and it is simply a case of the sword turning.

"I firmly believe that in several of these states the negroes hold the balance of power, and that they will swing the vote in the electoral college to Bryan. Nearly every negro who has worked and voted for Republican principles has been promised a job, and about all that he received in compensation is the promise. I watch which way the wind is blowing, and I think I am right in predicting a considerable falling away in the negro Republican vote."

Cabbage in Flats.
Lettuce is said to cause measles and scarlet rash. It is known beyond cavil that boiled cabbages have caused rows in flats.

Hampton, Phoebus and Old Point.

Carelessness Responsible for Many New York Fires

New York's perpendicular proportions and its congestion of population call for heroic measures among its fire fighters. No other city uses such constant and spectacular use of every variety of fire fighting apparatus. In the course of a year the department is called out, according to a recent report, to upward of thirteen thousand fires. Day and night continuously some two hundred and fourteen fire engine and hook and ladder companies, scattered throughout the city stand ready to make instant response to every call. An army of some four thousand trained and seasoned firemen is constantly alert to face every danger and lead the most forlorn hope.

No great fire scene is complete in New York without a play of the department searchlights. The work at all night fires is more or less hampered by darkness, and the danger is increased when narrow streets and high buildings prevent the black smoke of the engines from escaping. The searchlights—there are three of them—may be rushed to any point as quickly as an engine, and, being complete in themselves, may be operated independently of water or electric mains.

The great sheet of light practically turns night into day, discovering the people at the windows, enabling the firemen to direct their hose or lighting up cracking walls. The play of this brilliant shaft of light about a burning building, the scenes suddenly revealed in the darkness of struggling men, of flames leaping about falling walls, perhaps of agonized faces at the windows, only to be lost a moment later, makes a picture never to be forgotten.

There is a comforting sense of safety in the appearance of the great extension ladders we feel in no other apparatus. Here is always a path of safety from the highest windows of our homes which under skilful hands may be raised and swung about high in air as if by magic. The heartiest cheers of the fire crowds are raised at the sight of the rapidly unrolling ladders, with the firemen nimbly running to their tops as they swing. The extension ladder and tower hose have grown taller as our buildings have climbed upward until they have today practically reached their limit. It is possible to raise a ladder to the height of eighty feet in a few seconds, with several men climbing to its upper rounds. The tower or crane hose raises a pipe so that it may play effectively on top of even a twelve story building. These machines are so contrived that a single man at its foot can control the angle of the stream fifty feet above his head. Incidentally the record time between the turning in of a alarm and the actual lapping of the water through such an apparatus is thirty-one seconds.

Or's opinion is likely to be all wrong or nearly so, as to the cause of the thousands of fires. Year after year we continue to reap the same harvest from our carelessness. Much well spent energy expended in preventive fires, it is safe to say, might be more intelligently directed. For years the most fruitful source of danger has been the carelessness in handling matches. There are on an average five fires a day due to this cause alone. Upward of fifteen hundred times the course of a year some group of engines must be turned out, the trial of the streets interrupted, perhaps a serious property loss incurred. As a rule these fires are trifling, the average loss being about \$100 each.

How many children have been deprived, lights on their Christmas trees for of fire. Throughout the entire city there is an average of not more than four such fires a year. It is the sad with fireworks. Despite all the things against fire crackers, the fire from such fires last year was less than \$1,000 throughout the city in twenty fires. The sparks from sort fires are always much dreaded, there were but seventeen such fires year.

The extinguishing of gasoline or kerosene fires is another much exacted danger, there being but fifty such fires last year from this cause only one week, and these averaged but \$100 loss each. The most fruitful sources of fire would seem readily preventable. Next to this as a fire menace the bonfire fires and rubbish fires are the greatest danger, with a record of fifty five hundred fires. The use of oilies and tapers would seem to be a danger of the remote past as New York city, and yet loss of \$500,000 are charged as them. Carelessness with cigars and cigarettes is one of the common causes of fire, with more than hundred conflagrations a year. Incense is less common than is generally imagined, with but about thirty a year. The cause of some of our fires a year remains unexplained, although it is believed that a considerable proportion of these may be charged to careless cigar smokers.

The loss from fires in New York is twice that in population and wealth in terms of the city's loss from fires usually increased, reaching in the case of a year an amazing total of numbers the loss last year a million and a half dollars. The decline is noticeable, however, in the last five years. Five ago the loss was fully twice that, although the city was considerably smaller—certainly a very little to the efficiency of the department. Today the average loss each fire is at 13 South Delaware Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

most exactly \$400. During the last five years the average loss per fire has been steadily reduced about twenty per cent annually. Statistics are stupid things but if there be one subject which lends them interest certainly those which describe our serious fires should make them interesting reading. The number of fires in New York has remained practically the same from year to year for almost a decade. That they should not have increased in proportion to the population may be explained in many ways. The fireproofing of buildings, the increased efficiency of the fire department, are the prime factors.

The fire companies throughout the city responded last year to about 13,600 calls, and of this a trifle more than ten per cent, were false alarms. Most of the fires are very trifling. Fully fifty per cent of the working fires caused a loss of \$10 or less, while twenty per cent were estimated at about \$50 and about twenty per cent of the others at \$1,000. It will come as a surprise to the average layman to learn that only one per cent of all fires in New York caused a loss of \$20,000 or more.

The proportion of fires which gain serious headway is astonishingly low. With some thirty-six fire alarms a day to respond to, a serious fire, one which the newspapers illustrate or even mention, occurs only at intervals of weeks. Of the thousands of working fires in the year considerably more than eighty per cent are confined to the point of starting. Fifteen per cent of those remaining are confined to the buildings in which they originated. Scarcely one per cent of all city fires are allowed to extend to buildings other than those in which they started. Such statistics gain a new interest from the recent discussion of the poor condition of fire hose throughout the city.

New York's harbor is patrolled by a fleet of fire boats, the fire service now numbers seven boats, and is shortly to be increased. These floating engines are perhaps the most picturesque of all the most powerful and efficient. Built entirely of metal, they may approach the hottest fires, while the pumps of a single boat will do the work of several fire engines. The New York, the flagship of the fleet, is equipped with six standpipes or guns, as they are called, which together will throw some 12,000 gallons of water per minute in 400 foot streams. Such a broadside renders her practically invincible in the most serious conflagration.—New York Herald.

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All business between New York and Newport News transacted at pier No. 6.

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Lv. Wash. ...	8:00 am	9:00 am
Ar. Phila. ...	11:00 am	11:55 am
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Lv. Phila. ...	2:00 pm	2:13 pm
Ar. Wash. ...	6:05 pm	5:20 pm
Lv. Wash. ...	6:30 pm	6:30 pm
Ar. Old Point ...	7:00 pm	7:00 am
Ar. Norfolk ...	8:00 am	8:00 am
Ar. Portsmouth ...	8:30 am	8:30 am

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Norfolk—Ocean View—White City

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Lv. Norfolk	Lv. Ocean View	Lv. Sewall's Pt. Pr.	Lv. Ship Yards	Lv. Ivy Ave. Pr.	Ar. Ocean View
7:30	7:30	8:00	8:30	6:45	
9:00	9:00	9:30	10:15	10:30	11:00
10:20	10:20	11:00	11:45	12:00	1:00
12:00	12:00	12:30	1:15	1:30	2:30
1:30	1:30	2:00	2:45	3:00	4:00
3:00	3:00	3:30	4:15	4:30	5:30
4:30	4:30	5:00	5:45	6:00	7:00
6:00	6:00	6:30	7:15	8:00	9:00
8:00	8:00	8:30	9:15	9:30	10:30
9:30	9:30	10:00	10:45	11:00	12:00
11:00	11:00	11:30			

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